19th March 1948]

" (*f*) Some complaints have been received to this effect.

" (*g*) No.

" (*h*) The question does not arise."

Supply of newspapers to the office of Inspector of Local Boards.

* 45 *Q.*—SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that several newspapers, daily and weekly, are supplied to the office of the Inspector of Local Boards at Government cost during the period from 1944–47 and if so, whether they are made available daily for the office staff or for the members of public visiting the office of the Inspector of Local Boards; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the old or used newspapers are sold and, if so, the amount realized by sale of newspapers during 1944, 1945, 1946 and 1947 and whether the Government will place on the table of the House a statement of the dates of credit of the sale-proceeds during the same period?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" (*a*) Dailies but no weeklies were subscribed for by the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards at Government cost during the period 1944–47 for official reference by himself and also by the office staff as and when required. They are not intended for being read by members of public visiting the office.

" (*b*) The old papers are sold. Some of them were lost through theft which occurred at the end of 1944. The remaining papers and those of 1945 and 1946 were sold to the Salvation Army at concessional rates. The proceeds, namely, Rs. 8–1–0 was credited to Government, on 1st October 1947. The other old papers are pending sale from 6th January 1948. since the Government contractor has not yet turned up, in spite of notice."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Is it at the discretion of the officer, either in this office or in any other office under the Government, to get so many newspapers, either weekly or daily? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" It is left to the discretion of the officer."

Constitution of an Expert Committee for reorganizing the Engineering Colleges.

* 46 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have constituted any expert Committee for reorganizing the Engineering Colleges in the Province;

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, what the constitution and terms of reference to the Committee are;

(*c*) whether the Committee have submitted their conclusions on the subjects referred to them;